



TASK FORCE ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

State Capitol
900 Court St. NE, Rm. 453
Salem, OR 97301

June 21, 2021

TO: Senator Ron Wyden
RE: Affordable Care Act (ACA) Section 1332 Innovation Waiver

Dear Senator Wyden,

Oregon's [Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care](#), respectfully requests your support for incorporating enhancements to the ACA Section 1332 innovation waiver into the upcoming Senate reconciliation bill

The Joint Task Force on Universal Health Care was charged by the Oregon legislature to create a plan for a more equitable and affordable universal healthcare system in our state. Additional federal waiver provisions, above and beyond those in Section 1332 will be needed to implement our plan.

Your strong leadership enabled state innovation through Section 1332 to bring high-quality, affordable, health care to all its residents. Recognizing your intent, we urge you to support additional waivers from federal healthcare laws to achieve that purpose.

Attached is specific language that we hope can be incorporated into the reconciliation bill in the Senate Finance Committee. This would allow individual states that comply with Section 1332 requirements to create statewide universal healthcare plans and still preserve funding from nearly all federal healthcare programs, including Medicare. This would also resolve any legal ambiguities under ERISA.

Thank you again for considering this request, and we look forward to working with you to guarantee high-quality, cost-effective healthcare to Oregonians and all Americans.

Respectfully,

Bruce Goldberg, Chair

Edward Junkins, Vice-Chair

Task Force Roster

Lionel “Chad” Chadwick, *Rural Health Representative*
Glendora Claybrooks, *Public Member Representative*
Michael Collins, *Tribal Representative*
Dwight Dill, *Social Services Representative*
Bruce Goldberg, *Licensed Health Care Professional*
Zeenia Junkeer, *Alternative Therapy Services Representative*
Ed Junkins, *Rural Health Representative*
Sam Metz, *Medical and Surgical Services Representative*
Cherryl Ramirez, *Behavioral Health Representative*
Deborah Riddick, *Nursing Services Representative*
Leslie Rogers, *Services for Persons with Disabilities Representative*
John Santa, *Quality Assurance and Healthcare Accountability Representative*
Chuck Sheketoff, *Public Member Representative*
Sharon Stanphill, *Public Health Services Representative*